

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6576

BILL NUMBER: SB 249

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 10, 2002

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: False Reporting.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Alting

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: The bill makes false reporting, the offense committed by a person who falsely reports that: (1) an explosive or other destructive substance has been placed in a building or transportation facility; (2) there has been or will be consumer product tampering; or (3) a weapon of mass destruction has been or will be introduced in a building or place of assembly; a Class C felony instead of a Class D felony.

Effective Date: July 1, 2003.

Explanation of State Expenditures: All things being equal, enhancing the penalty for false reporting from a Class D felony to a Class C felony could increase the number of beds needed. Between FY 1997 and FY 2001, an average of two offenders a year were committed to a Department of Correction facility for false reporting. The average length of stay for a Class D felony is 10 months and for a Class C felony is two years.

Based on the commitment data reported by the Department of Correction and an effective date of July 1, 2003, an additional two beds would be needed for Department of Correction facilities by 2004.

The average expenditure to house an adult offender was \$25,087 in FY 2001. Individual facility expenditures ranged from \$18,520 to \$54,465. (This does not include the cost of new construction.) If offenders can be housed in existing facilities with no additional staff, the average cost for medical care, food, and clothing is approximately \$1,825 annually, or \$5 daily, per prisoner.

Explanation of State Revenues: No change would likely occur in state revenue as a result of this bill since criminal fines and court fees are the same for both Class D and Class C felonies.

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues: No additional revenues would be expected since the court fees for Class D and Class C felonies are both \$120.

State Agencies Affected: Department of Correction.

Local Agencies Affected: Trial courts, local law enforcement agencies.

Information Sources: Indiana Sheriffs Association, Department of Correction.

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